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"The San Francisco branch mint in 1857, was robbed of 10 or 15,000 dollars by the coiners' head cutter, William Bein, a Belgian. Bein was arrested ^{19th} August, confessed the crime and gave up to the U.S. most of the proceeds of his crime. The gold taken was in blanks and clippings, and the circumstance which aroused suspicion was the deposit, by a banking house, of certain small, rough, gold bars of standard mint value. Bein was promptly convicted.

Others implicated in mint swindles were arrested shortly after. Gador and Henry Ham were brought up on a charge of conspiracy against T. A. Szabo, in attempting to extort money from him, believing him a mint-defaulter and in their power.

Augustin Larachy, melter
and refiner of the San
Francisco branch mint, on
the 19th of Sept, (1857),
was indicted by the U.S.
Grand Jury upon a charge
of embezzling gold to
the amount of \$151,550.
He was arrested and released
on \$20,000 bail. Afterward
he was tried and sentenced
to six years in the State
prison and to pay a fine of
\$2,000.

(Hubert Love Hancock:
Calif. inter Poecula
a review of some classical
San Francisco 1888
on Page 342)

(Later on he was acquitted, see:
Dict of Amer Biography
Vol 8-236)

